

# THE FRANKFORT ROUNDABOUT.

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## THE FARMING REGION OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON.

Davenport, Wash., Nov. 26.

To the farmers of the eastern States very little is known, except in a general way, concerning the rich farming districts of eastern Washington.

Having been raised on a farm in the east, and being familiar with the many obstacles with which the farmer in the east must contend in producing his crop, it is the purpose of the writer to give a correct and impartial description of this part of the State of Washington.

Lincoln county is located near the center of the State, on a north and south line, and on the east side in the second tier of counties from Idaho. It contains 2,430 square miles, or 1,500,000 acres. It is one of the largest and most important counties in eastern Washington, embracing a vast area in the great plateau known as the Big Bend country, so called from the great bend which marks the course of the Columbia river across the entire eastern portion of the State. It is also one of the most prosperous and productive counties in the State, and offers the best inducements to health-seekers, housekeepers and investors.

The inhabitants of the county, about 15,000 in number, are a thrifty, industrious, law abiding people. The soil is exceptionally rich, four-fifths of its area consisting of rolling prairie, the remainder consisting of timber lands lying along the streams and the canyons of the Columbia and Spokane rivers.

The county is traversed its entire length by three railroads, the Central Washington, Great Northern and Northern Pacific, giving ready and easily accessible transportation from all points in the county.

Of the entire area of the county it is estimated that 1,000,000 acres are agricultural lands, 150,000 grazing and 350,000 timber lands. Among the advantages claimed for the county by its settlers are: lands farmed cheaply that yield heavily; central location, giving outlet by separate railway systems and furnishing a ready market for all the products of the soil. The soil of Lincoln county is composed of a decomposed volcanic ash, and is very fertile, and while it is the ideal soil for wheat culture, it is equally adapted to all kinds of agricultural products. The yield of wheat per acre on these lands is from 15 to 50 bushels. In the past four seasons the crops have been exceptionally good, running the average up higher than ever before. This year the county produced more grain than ever before in the history of its settlement. It is estimated that 8,000,000 bushels of wheat will be marketed from the farms in this county. At the prevailing prices this will return an average of \$2.50 to every man, woman and child in the county.

Here is indeed the farmer's paradise. No more beautiful landscape could be contemplated than the rolling prairies carpeted with growing wheat alternated by dark fields of summer fallow.

The writer has been told by farmers who came here from the east in the 80's with large families of small children and with but little means, who now have productive farms of hundreds of acres, beautiful homes and substantial bank accounts, that it is not uncommon for a farmer to clean up from \$3,000 to \$5,000 from one crop.

Some do better than this. Not alone does the soil of Lincoln county produce wheat in abundance, but oats, rye and some of the more hardy grasses do well here.

Peaches, apples, pears, plums, cherries and all the berries do well in all parts of the county. The orchards of the county this fall presented a sight pleasing to behold. In many of the orchards the trees are broken down, and ruined from being overloaded. But the features of the country which makes it a

paradise for the farmer are these: The early springs, the pleasant summers and short and seldom cold winters; the healthfulness of the climate and the freedom of the country from ravenous insects, as the hessian fly, chintz bug, potato bug and codling moth. These pests which so harass the farmer in the east are unknown here. Land is cheap. Good railroad land can be bought for from \$3 to \$5 per acre, on ten years time, one-tenth to be paid annually, at six per cent. interest on deferred payments. Improved farms can be bought for from \$800 to \$2,500 per quarter section, according to location and improvements.

Davenport, the county seat of Lincoln county, is located near the center of the county, in a rich farming community. It has a population of 2,000, and is the largest town in the county. It is substantially built, and besides the solid brick blocks, contains many beautiful homes. For schools and churches Davenport has few equals among cities of its size. The new high school building, nearing completion, which will cost \$15,000, is a model of beauty and comfort.

GEO. W. CURTIS,  
Davenport, Wash.

## THE PARIS FAIR AND THE PAN-AMERICAN COMPARED.

Frederick W. Taylor, director of Concessions at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, recently returned from a five weeks' trip to the Paris Exposition where he has made arrangements for the transfer to the Pan-American of some of the most popular amusement features of the Paris fair.

On his return to Buffalo, Mr. Taylor praised the Paris Exposition as an exhibition of the products of the world, but criticised its management. He said, "the amusement features of the fair were very disappointing, both to the stockholders and the visitors, as there was no especial place provided for them, but instead they were scattered in a haphazard way about the grounds, and therefore hard to find. Besides this disadvantage none of the buildings for exhibits were lighted during the evenings, and the principal portions of the grounds were as dark as a deserted village. He attributed failure of the many concessions to the fact that they were sold outright at so much per square foot for the space occupied, instead of being run on a percentage basis as is being done at the Pan-American Exposition. In consequence of this outright sale of privileges, the interest of the company ceased, and also many duplicate concessions were sold.

"The South American countries all had elaborate displays," says Mr. Taylor, "although they were overshadowed by the older and richer countries. Dr. Day, our superintendent of mining, was at Paris in charge of the Standard Oil Company's exhibit. I had a long visit with the South American Representatives and found them enthusiastic about the Pan-American Exposition. We invited them to lunch one day in one of our dining cars, on what was known as the Trans-Siberia Railway, a display made by an English car manufacturing company, which was composed of several coaches, including dining room cars, while moving scenic curtains at the side of the coaches gave the idea of a trip from Moscow to Pekin, and I found that all of them were anxious to have their countries represented at Buffalo next year.

"They felt they would appear to a far better advantage, and also that they would make an acquaintance with their sister countries, which would be more advantageous than relations with the European countries.

"Yes, I looked about for concessions and exhibits, and found any number of European people who would like to come here if they were eligible, and also many con-

cessionaires and exhibitors who will at once transfer their exhibits from Paris to Buffalo.

"Many persons fear that it will cost an enormous sum to visit all the features of our exposition, but it is really going to be surprisingly cheap. None of the Midway features will charge over 25 cents admission, and probably not over four will charge over 15 cents. The animal show, volcano and cyclorama, which will serve no refreshments and sell no souvenirs, will charge a little more than the rest, which will have extra attractions inside, such as shows in the theatres of the different villages, where a small admission will be charged.

"I think \$6 will admit a person to every important feature of the Midway, where will be located the only exhibits for which an extra admittance fee will be charged, and for \$10 or \$12 a person can visit everything to be seen upon the grounds. Perhaps the expense will be even less, if the person does not care to eat and drink in the different places.

"Every concession we have let is under the management of men who have succeeded in the show business. Their concessions are backed by ample capital to make them sure of giving finished productions.

"I think our Exposition, when it is opened, will present an artistic appearance, far surpassing that of any Exposition of similar size ever held. Our buildings, colorings, landscape effects and grounds will surprise everyone, and our electrical display will certainly go ahead of anything in that line ever before undertaken.

"Abroad nearly every English-speaking person I met knew of the Pan-American Exposition and asked me to mail them copies of the posters giving the Beek design and the 'Spirit of Niagara' which attracted much attention at Paris."

## ANOTHER RUNAWAY AND SMASH UP.

Just as the 4:35 p. m. train was leaving the depot for Lexington, on Monday afternoon, a horse hitched to the delivery wagon of Mr. Chas. Whitehead, the plumber, became frightened and ran away, throwing the driver (a young man by the name of Buford Price) out and breaking his arm just above the wrist and otherwise cutting and bruising him.

The frightened animal then ran into the surrey of Tom Lane, the colored baggage man, smashing that vehicle and knocking the horse down. This frightened two other horses and they ran away.

Altogether there was considerable excitement for a short time, and about a dozen ladies coming from the train were in great danger of being run over, and would have been but for some lively skipping out of the way.

This is the second time this horse has cut a similar caper. The first time Mr. Whitehead was thrown out of the wagon and the small bone of his left leg broken and a youth with him was badly bruised and cut up.

The most effective little liver pills made are DeWitt's Little Early Risers. They never gripe. South & Longmoor, W. McKee Hardie.

## THE RURAL VOTER.

There was no rest for the candidates last Sunday. They were out with the rural voter, and as the Bible permits labor with the ass and the ox on the Sabbath the hard work was carried on to the letter.

—Argus.

What do the rural voters think of that? Now will you be good?

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